SUBJECT No. 68.

Free permission to shoot tigers and cheetahs in State and other Forests.

Messrs. B. Venkatagiriappa and Anche Thimmappa, Sagar Taluk.

Summary of Discussion.—Free license should be given. Ten out of 20 cattle are killed in each village. Villages are bordered by State Forest in most places. In Abligere, six miles from Shimoga, three people were killed by a tiger. Number of tigers has increased and not decreased. For protection of crops, we get a free license. If the tiger runs into the forests, we cannot pursue.

Per contra it was stated that the license permitted pursuing these in forests. There is difficulty in getting license. It takes months to get one. If information is given, Government may undertake the killing of wild beasts and send game officers to shoot the tigers.

Reply of Government.—A lincense is necessary to shoot in State Forests and the license fee is Rs. 5. If a tiger is shot, the licensee gets a reward of Rs. 50. If information is given, Government are prepared to do all they can.

SUBJECT No. 69.

Enlargement on bail of the accused person on sufficient security till the expiry of the appeal period against the conviction of the court of the first instance.

Messrs. T. Guruchennabasavaiya and Abdul Nabi Khan Saheb, Tumkur Municipality and Singri Nanjappa, Tiptur Municipality.

Summary of Discussion.—A person is convicted for 24 hours and before any steps are taken, the sentence is executed so much so that the order of the first court is practically final. There is thus no use of appellate courts in such cases. The person will have suffered imprisonment and quashing of conviction is no use to him. We are not concerned with the practice elsewhere. In cases where an accused is let on bail, he may continue to be on bail, as an under trial prisoner. Let appellate court act on a telegram.

Reply of Government.—No country has such a principle. After conviction, consequences must follow. A higher Court can set it aside.

SUBJECT No. 70.

Empowering Lock-up Officers to enlarge prisoners on bail.

Messrs. H. S. Gundappa and B. K. Venkataramanaiya, Kunigal Taluk.

Summary of Discussion.—Appellate Courts order release on bail. If the magistrate of the lower court is on leave or absent, there is none to give effect to the order, and this entails a great hardship. Lock-up officers may be empowered to take bail. The status and other qualifications of the sureties produced are generally known to the Lock-up officers.

Reply of Government.—Acceptance of bail is a judicial act. The suggestion cannot be accepted.

PROTECTION—(POLICE).

(Nos. 71 to 73).

SUBJECT No. 71.

Renewal of gun licenses to be effected once in 5 years and the license forms to be got printed in stamp papers.

Messrs. H. Narayana Rao, Molakalmuru Taluk; Nadig Lakshmana Rao and Nadig Bhaskara Rao, Sorab Taluk.

Summary of Discussion.—Renewal of license every year is a great hardship and the period may be extended to 5 years.

The Dewan stated that as, under the rules, the District Magistrate could issue a license for 3 years, there was no question of renewal during that period, and that the rule was not perhaps widely known.

The rule may be given wide publicity. It is better to invest the Amildar with this power, as he is easily available. The real difficulty is the delay in the grant of the license. The period sometimes extends to nearly a year. If the District Magistrate declines to issue a license, an appeal should lie to Government.